

# Trendlines

July/August 2009

*Perspectives on Utah's Economy*

## Evaluating Utah's Economy

A MIDSEASON CHECK-UP

**Ready**

And Willing to Work—  
Need a Job

PROFLIGATE  
SPENDERS  
TO PRUDENT  
SAVERS?

The  
ECONOMY:  
What Can We  
Expect?

**PLUS:**  
Elevate your vacation with a  
"Staycation" this summer

Department of Workforce Services



## ***Trendlines***

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## Evaluating Utah's Economy: A Midseason Check-up



pg. 14



pg. 16

# contents

4

The Economy: What Can We Expect?  
*Wasatch Front and Statewide*

6

American Recovery & Reinvestment  
Act Summary  
*The Outlook*

8

Profiling Job Losses Through Initial  
Unemployment Claims  
*Economic News*

11

The Changing Face of Manufacturing  
*Economic Insight*

12

The Resume: Your Ticket  
to a Job Interview  
*Insider News*

14

Ready and Willing to Work—Need a Job  
*What's Happening*

16

Profligate Spenders to Prudent Savers?  
*National News*

18

Washington County:  
From Boom to Bust?  
*The Outskirts*

20

Economist  
*Occupations*

22

Elevate Your Vacation Value with a  
"Staycation" This Summer  
*Our Guest*

24

Juab County  
*County Highlight*

27

Just the Facts...  
*Rate Update*

# THE ECONOMY: What Can We Expect?



Utah is deep into an economic downturn. Employment losses are adding up, and the inflow into the unemployment ranks is only slightly abating. Initial unemployment claim levels are dropping but still remain high enough to contribute to more bad economic numbers going forward. It appears that the economy is still trying to right itself, and there is more negative news yet to absorb.

But there is also the feeling nationwide that the worst of this economic downturn is behind us—that the economic free-fall that pervaded most of the winter is giving way to a feeling that we are somewhat getting our arms around this thing. Stabilizing the financial markets is the key to it all, and most of that sector's bad news has come and gone. There may be a few more dominoes yet to fall, but most of the falling has occurred.

If this is a proper assessment, we need to start thinking about when is the first chance to turn the economic corner. The momentum into the summer months is largely occurring as we speak, so there isn't much hope for it being this summer. The late fall and early winter hold more promise.

Although the job losses should stabilize by then, and may even start to rebound, a rapid recovery is not in the works. The financial sector was too severely battered to consider it fixed and ready to open for business again. That sector's transition back into its traditional and important role will be much slower than we would like.

Utah's economy will recover alongside the national economic recovery. Historically, Utah rebounds quickly and shows much swifter progress than the national economy. That pattern may not hold this time, at least not initially, as Utah's lagging housing market could be the factor that keeps Utah's recovery moderate. 📍



Our economy will  
recover alongside  
the national  
economic recovery.

## Did You Know...

- Utah business executives are feeling more optimistic about their companies' financial futures. <http://www.deseretnews.com/article/705306588/Zions-executive-survey-takes-a-turn-toward-optimism.html>.
- Investors from around the country as well as in Utah invested in Utah businesses more frequently in 2008 than in 2007. <http://www.deseretnews.com/article/705305783/Investment-deals-grew-in-08-for-Utah-firms.html>.
- The Interior Department will invest \$118.7 million in Utah from the Obama administration's federal stimulus pot. [http://www.sltrib.com/news/ci\\_12360805](http://www.sltrib.com/news/ci_12360805).

# American

## Recovery & Reinvestment Act Summary

In February 2009, the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) was enacted by Congress and signed into law by the President. The ARRA provides for almost \$790 billion in federal tax reductions and increased federal spending aimed at accelerating the nation's economic recovery.


Tax relief accounts for approximately \$300 billion of the total ARRA package. Major individual tax provisions include the \$8,000 First-Time Homebuyer Credit and Making Work Pay Credit, a refundable tax credit of 6.2% of earned income up to \$400 for individuals and \$800 for married taxpayers. The remaining \$490 billion authorized by ARRA is directed towards additional funding for federal programs like Medicaid and Temporary Assistance For Needy Families, infrastructure (includes highway improvements and modernization of the electric grid), and aid to state and local governments.

It is anticipated that Utah will receive approximately \$1.6 billion in formulary funding through ARRA and even more through competitive grants. Utah families and businesses are expected to experience more than an estimated \$2 billion in tax relief.

About half of Utah's ARRA funding is for the fiscal stabilization of state programs. Utah is receiving \$390 million to mitigate budget shortfalls in public and higher education, and approximately \$280 million in increased funding for Medicaid to maintain healthcare services and to reduce general revenue support for the program which, in turn, can be used to stabilize other budget shortfalls.

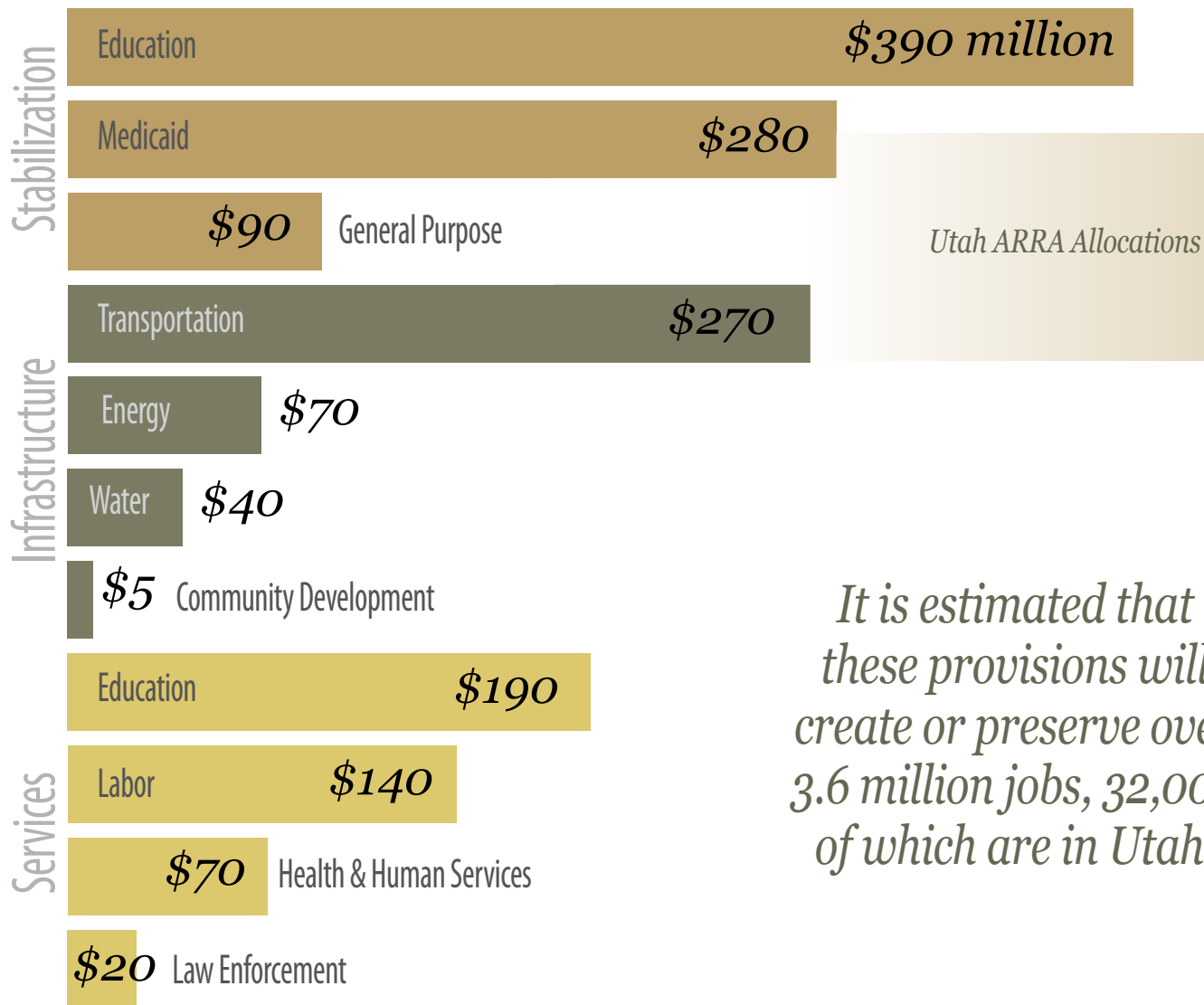
The Governor was also given discretion over about \$90 million in "general stabilization funding." This has been directed toward uses aimed at creating jobs, reducing unemployment, stabilizing and improving Utah's economy, and averting the need to raise taxes, such as investments in the Home Run housing grant program and the Utah Science Technology and Research Initiative (USTAR). In addition to

fiscal stabilization, the ARRA provides for approximately \$385 million in infrastructure investments and \$420 million for public services in Utah.

The President's Council of Economic Advisors estimates that the provisions of ARRA will create or preserve over 3.6 million jobs nationally and approximately 32,000 jobs in Utah. Expenditures and resulting economic effects will be closely monitored over the coming months and years at recovery.gov and [recovery.utah.gov](http://recovery.utah.gov). 

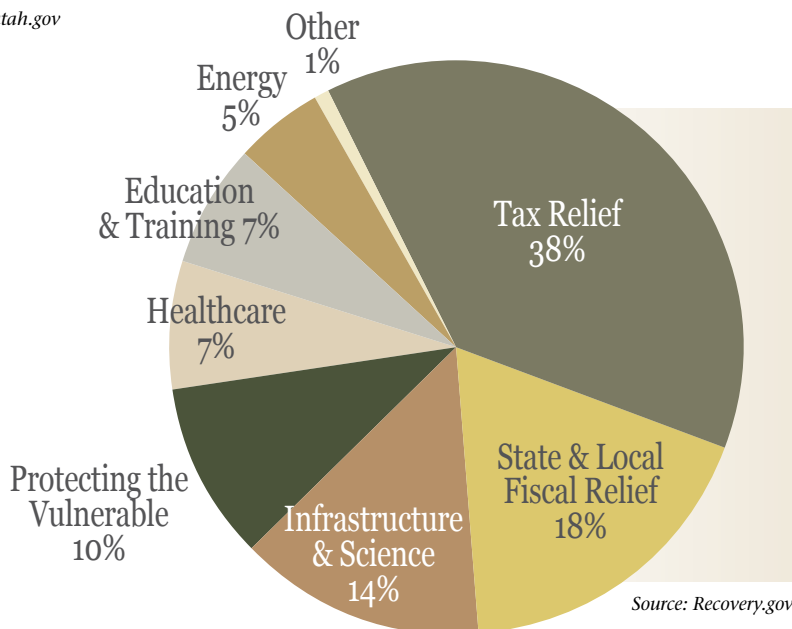
*Utah is expected to receive more than \$2 billion in tax relief.*





*It is estimated that these provisions will create or preserve over 3.6 million jobs, 32,000 of which are in Utah.*

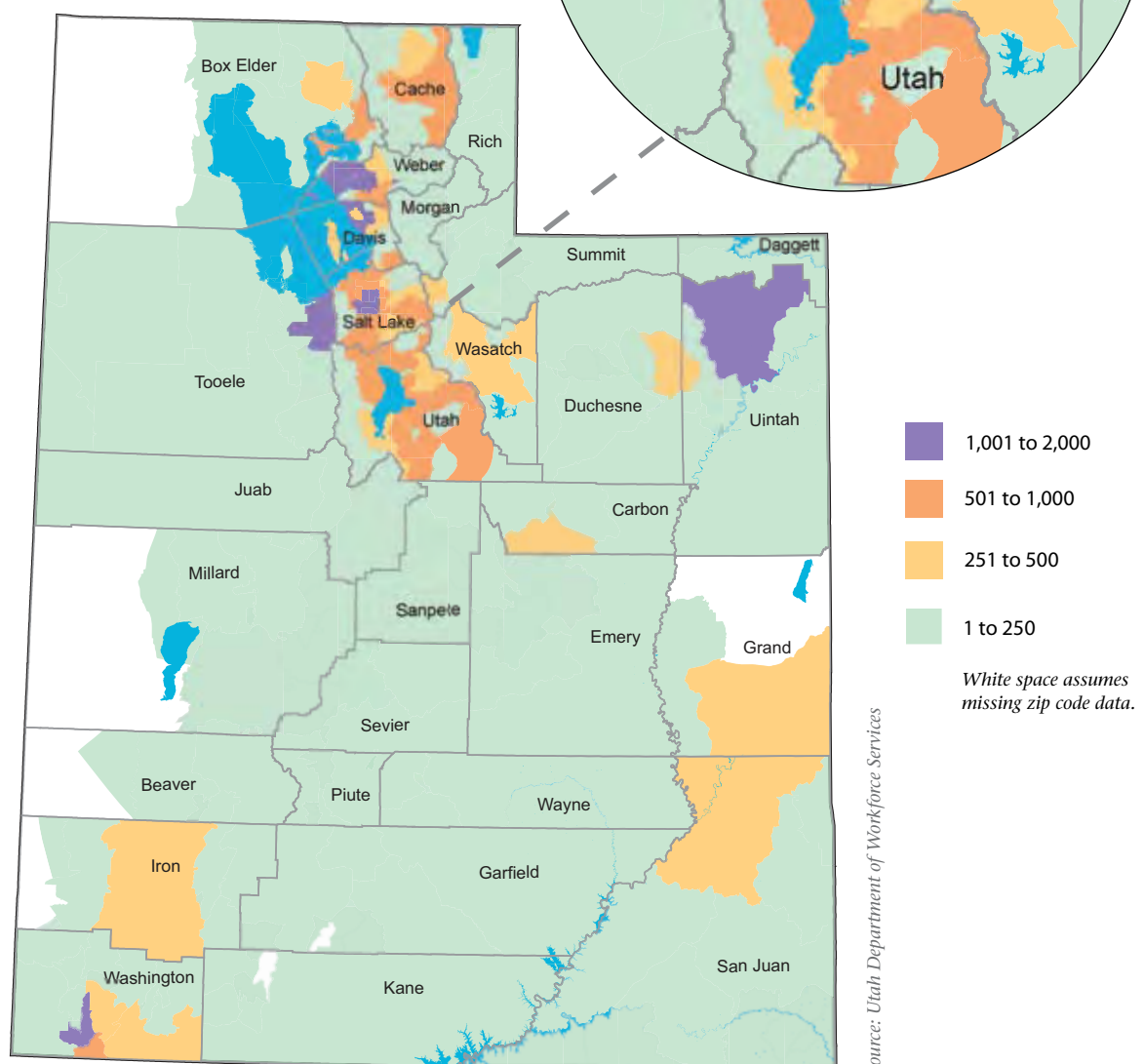
Source: [Recovery.utah.gov](http://Recovery.utah.gov)



*United States Distribution of ARRA Funds*

Source: [Recovery.gov](http://Recovery.gov)

*Initial Unemployment Claims  
by Zip Code*  
January—April 2009





# *Profiling Job Losses Through Initial* **Unemployment Claims**

*Certain truisms are visible in Utah's claims profiling, one of which is that people with higher levels of education make more money than those with less and also have lower rates of unemployment.*

Economists monitor economic variables as part of their analysis of the economy's performance. One current and quickly measureable variable is weekly initial unemployment insurance claims. This is an accounting of people who have recently lost a job and filed for unemployment benefits during a week. These claims can be quantified and summarized as rapidly as the following week. This quick profile makes initial unemployment claims one of the more leading of all economic variables. It is also a good measure of how the future employment variables may play out, as a rapid increase in claims portends significant job losses in the upcoming month's employment counts.

Utah's initial claims made a noticeable movement upward beginning in November 2008. As of May 2009, initial unemployment

claims were still running high in Utah. Compared against the same time period of the prior year, claims are three times higher this year. This isn't a surprise considering that the state and nation are in a severe economic downturn. Yet it signals that the employment losses associated with this downturn are not yet giving an indication of easing off.

Initial unemployment claims also offer a profile of those filing for unemployment relief. There are certain truisms within economic labor market observations. One is that people with higher levels of education make more money than those with less (generally speaking; individual results may vary). Going hand-in-hand with this is that those with more education also have lower rates of unemployment. Their obtained skills and knowledge are more in demand and more costly to replace, therefore employers are

more reticent about laying them off.

These truisms are visible in Utah's unemployment claims profiling. Utah's initial unemployment claims have been high this year, so it offers ample information for observation. Nearly three-quarters of all initial claimants had 13 years of education or less (a high school diploma would represent 12 years of education). Those with a bachelor's degree or higher accounted for only 12 percent of unemployment claims filed.

A map of Utah by zip code areas (the lowest level of claims data available) and populated with the number of initial claimants since the beginning of the year show a few "hot spots"—some a surprise, some not. Areas in West Valley City, northwest Davis County, and northwest Weber County are some of the non-surprise areas. Why? The

*continued on next page*

*continued from previous page*

*Two surprise “hot spots” are Vernal, and eastern Tooele County—but they both have probable answers.*

Census reveals that these are areas with lower per-household income measurements.

If income corresponds with education levels, which inversely corresponds with unemployment activity, then one would expect claims activity to be higher in these areas.

Another area of non-surprise is St. George. Because of overbuilding and overpricing of housing in that area, it is Utah’s economically hardest-hit area. Therefore, it is not a surprise that claims are high there. As recently as two or three years ago it would have been a complete shock to see that number of claims there, given Washington County’s seemingly perpetual boom economy, but not now.

Two surprise “hot spots” are Vernal, and eastern Tooele County—but they both have probable answers. Vernal has had high claims in its past, so that’s not the surprise. The surprise is that when looking at the December

job growth numbers for that county (the most recent data available), job growth was around 10 percent. That was energy-driven growth (oil and gas). The high claims activity since January suggests that the energy industry’s fortunes out there may have turned on a dime. That theory matches with the flip in energy prices, and other anecdotal data surrounding the energy industry.

Initial claims in Tooele County are probably a demographic (and therefore an income) issue. There was a wave in the late 1990s and early 2000s of Salt Lake-based people going to Tooele County to build an affordable home. These commuters were young and of lower income. Therefore, when it comes time for layoffs, we have highlighted the vulnerability of lower incomes. We also need to highlight the vulnerability of age. If layoffs are based upon seniority (as oftentimes they are), then the younger workers lose their jobs first. That would impact that part of Tooele County. ●

## *Utah Weekly Initial Unemployment Insurance Claims* January 2008 – May 2009



Source: Utah Department of Workforce Services



## The Changing Face of Manufacturing

Utah. For example, way back in 1960 over 28 percent of total jobs in our nation were in manufacturing. Today (2008), that figure is 9.8 percent. In Utah back in 1960—baby boomers were still being born—that percent was 17.8. It's not that manufacturing has actually declined but it hasn't grown as quickly as the other major industry sectors. Manufacturing has had its ups and downs through a number of recessions but it has always rebounded.

Many manufacturing jobs have been outsourced, leaving the country because businesses in a capitalistic system make choices to produce products where they can maximize revenue and minimize costs. Where a product is made is the choice of a company, and those decisions are based on the profit motive. The U. S. remains the strongest economy in the world because we perform by doing what we do best. It's called comparative advantage.

**M**anufacturing is the industry that makes things. This major industry sector is an economic driver for the economy because the output is typically exported, which generates revenue coming into the state. That's a good thing. This sector pays well above the average wage, which is also a good thing. All this is positive, but there are also some not-so-positive aspects of manufacturing. Being an export-based industry exposes it to the vagaries of ups and downs in the larger regional, national, and world markets. Still, the risk is acceptable because of all the positives about manufacturing.


The industry as a whole is changing. Its employment position relative to the other major industry sectors is declining. We are in the information-based economy now, not the goods-based one of the last 40 to 50 years. Though its output is as high as ever, manufacturing jobs as a percent of total jobs in the economy, is slipping (technology and automation are making up the difference). This is not just unique to

### Utah's Manufacturing Industry

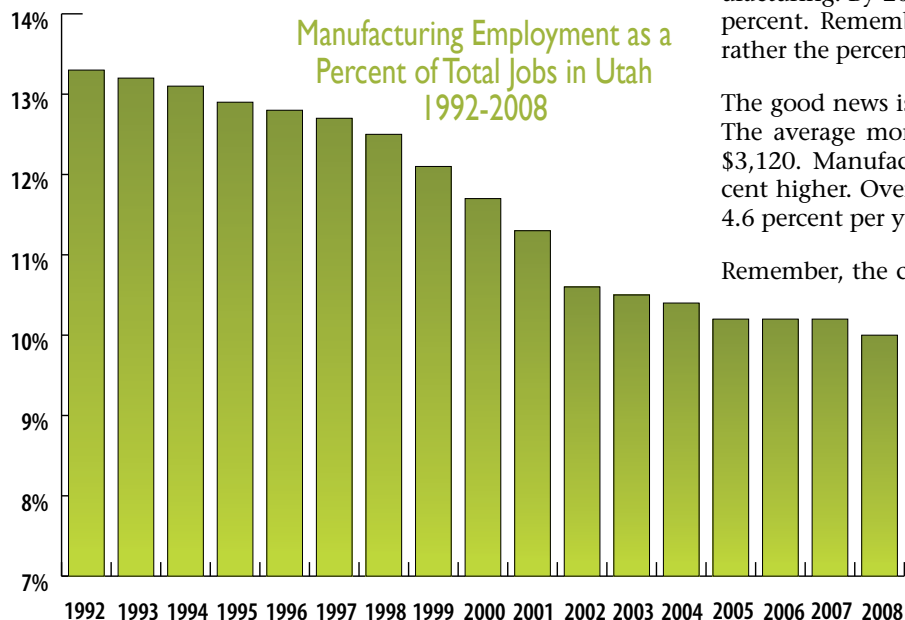
Taking a more current look at the industry, say from 1992 to 2008, provides some interesting insights. Over the 16-year period, Utah's total economy has grown at a 3.9-percent per year pace. Manufacturing has grown at a 1.4-percent annual rate. Over 23,000 new manufacturing jobs have increased employment from 102,500 in 1992 to the current 125,900 level in 2008. During that period the industry lost jobs (in a year-over comparison) in six of the 16 years.

Manufacturing jobs, as a percent of total jobs in Utah, have declined. In 1992, about 13.3 percent of all jobs were in manufacturing. By 2008 that slice of the pie had slipped to 10.0 percent. Remember the number of jobs has not dropped, rather the percent of total jobs has.

The good news is manufacturing pays well and always has. The average monthly wage for all industries in 2008 was \$3,120. Manufacturing's average pay was \$3,870—24 percent higher. Over the 1992-2008 period wages increased by 4.6 percent per year, both in total and in manufacturing.

Remember, the content of manufacturing is changing. The look of manufacturing in 1960 is far different than it is today. The mix of industries within manufacturing is changing, responding to forces in the market. It will continue to be a very important provider of jobs and revenue for Utah. 

Find more information at: <http://jobs.utah.gov/opencms/wi/statewide/ifsheets/manufacturing.pdf>



Source: Utah Department of Workforce Services: May 2009

# The Resume: Your Ticket to a Job Interview

**Y**our resume should let the employer know as clearly and quickly as possible what you can do for that organization or company. It is your primary sales tool to market yourself to an employer. The main purpose of your resume is to get an interview.

If you don't have a resume, the first step is to make a list of your education, employment history, skills, and accomplishments that relate to the job


you want. Make sure the information is accurate and complete.

Next, research resumes. You can find helpful information on the Internet. Look at examples of resumes given on Web sites. You can even Google resumes for specific occupations and see what other people's resumes look like. There are also templates available on the Web you can use, and some organizations require you to fill in their resume templates.

Some of the old resume rules don't apply any more. For example, the length of your resume doesn't have to be limited to just one page—it depends on your industry and the jobs you are applying for. Every resume doesn't have to have an objective at the top. You should include an objective only if you think it will help get you an interview. Tailor your resume to meet the specific needs of your targeted industry, job, employer and company.







Decide which format you will use for your resume and target it to the job you are seeking. This means you need to update your resume every time you apply for a different job and use language from the job announcement when it is appropriate. Targeting your resume is a very powerful method to set yourself apart from the competition and capture the employer's interest. This is a critical step when there are many people applying for the same job.

There are basically three main formats for resumes: Chronological, Functional, and Combination.

**The Chronological** format's emphasis is placed on a chronological listing of employment and employment-related experience. This is a good format if you have a consistent employment history, with no gaps, and past employment experiences are related to your current employment goals.

**The Functional** format highlights skills, experience, and accomplishments without identifying specific dates, names, and places. Employment history is de-emphasized by placing it near the bottom of the resume. This

format works well for those changing careers or new graduates. However, some hiring authorities don't favor this format because they suspect it is used to hide something.

**The Combination** format brings together both the Chronological and the Functional resumes. This format begins with a summary of your most impressive qualifications, skills, abilities and accomplishments. This information is followed by an employment history and education section that supports the statements made in the top portion.

It is important to put the most impressive information first and make sure it is perfect because employers only look at each resume for about 10-15 seconds before they determine whether they will interview you. Remember, your resume is your marketing tool to convince the employer you should be interviewed for the position! ⓘ

#### Check Out:

- [www.jobs.utah.gov](http://www.jobs.utah.gov)
- <http://careers.msn.com/>
- <http://career-advice.monster.com/resumes-cover-letters/careers.aspx>

## DO:

- Make sure there are no errors or misspellings
- Have someone proofread your resume
- Make sure you have a version you can email or cut and paste
- Include your name, mailing address, telephone number, and email address
- Update your resume for each job

## DON'T:

- Include hobbies unless they relate to the job
- Include personal information about marital status, age, religion, etc.
- Put references on your resume, have them available on a separate document

*What is the  
standard  
definition  
of someone  
unemployed?*

# Ready and Willing to Work —Need a Job

The toll of the current recession is seen in the strong rise in unemployment throughout the nation and in Utah. While Utah still has a much lower unemployment rate than many other states, it still has seen a recent increase in unemployment also.

Still, questions arise about how well the unemployment rate captures the impact on workers of an economic downturn, or those desiring to work. The standard definition of someone unemployed, as used by the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), is “people who are jobless, looking for jobs and available for work.” This definition also assumes some effort is being put forward to find work. However, you don’t have to look very far to find someone who wants to work full-time but is currently only able to find part-time work.

Because of this, BLS has alternative measures of labor underutilization. The most comprehensive measure is called U-6, and it includes the total unemployed, plus all marginally attached workers, plus total employed part-time for economic reasons. This is sometimes mistakenly referred to as the “alternative unemployment rate.” But since it includes some classifications of working individuals, it really measures workers who aren’t able to work at full potential, due to economic conditions, or labor that is underutilized.

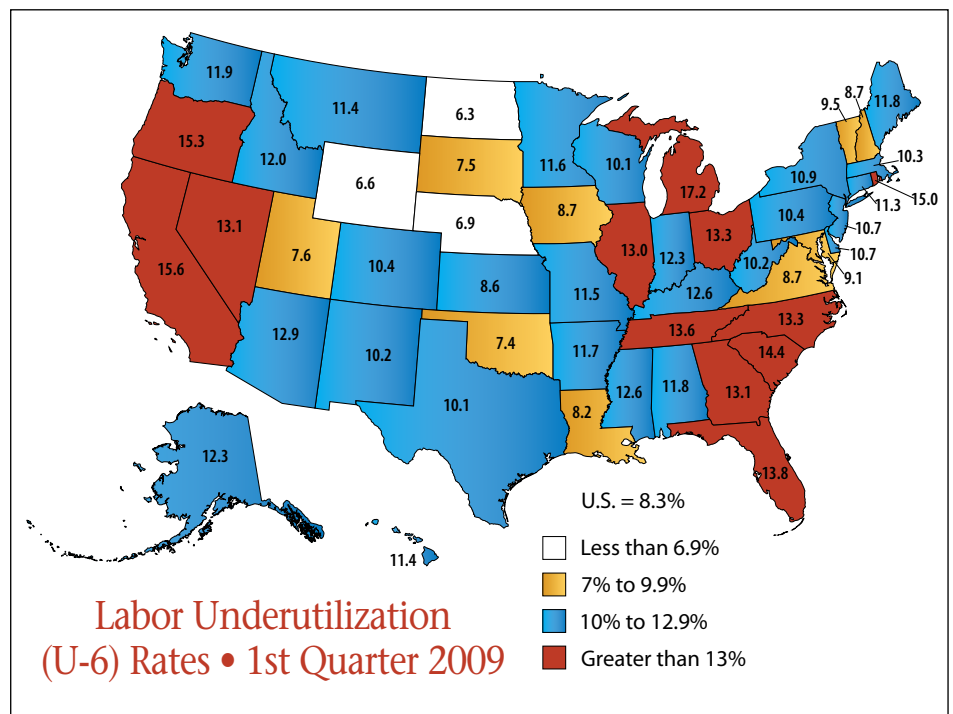
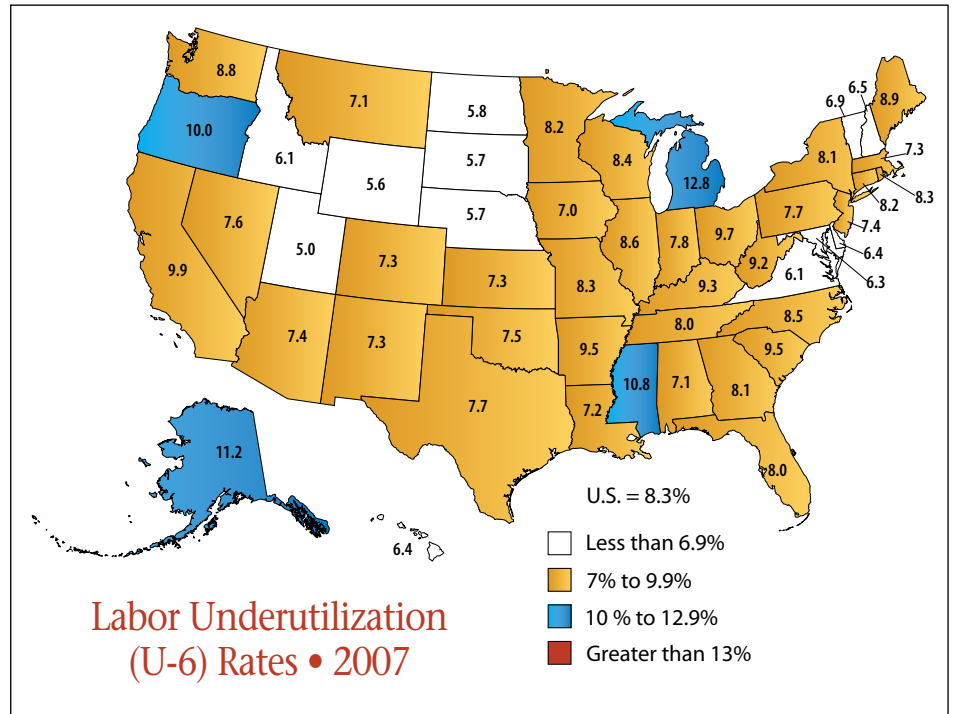
*For more information on alternative measures of labor underutilization see the following links:*

- <http://data.bls.gov/cgi-bin/surveymost>
- [http://www.bls.gov/cps/cps\\_htgm.htm#concepts](http://www.bls.gov/cps/cps_htgm.htm#concepts)
- <http://www.bls.gov/opub/ils/pdf/opbils74.pdf>
- <http://www.bls.gov/lau/stalt09q1.htm>

Historically, this U-6 measure of labor underutilization has only been available for the nation. However, BLS recently published U-6 annual averages by state for 2005-2008, and first quarter of 2009. Utah's lowest unemployment rate was a remarkable 2.6 percent in 2007, while its U-6 rate was reported at 5.0 percent.

The latest report, for the first quarter of 2009, showed Utah's unemployment rate rising to 4.3 and its U-6 rate jumping to 7.6 percent. Even with this broader definition Utah ranks reasonably well. In first quarter 2009, its 7.6 percent rate is one of the lowest, with only North Dakota, Wyoming, Nebraska, Oklahoma, and South Dakota with lower rates.

This new measure will provide a broader perspective on the impacts of economic change encountered by Utah's workforce. Hopefully, it will add information that helps policy makers in their decisions. ●



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics



# Profligate Spenders...



One of the distressing economic conditions over the past year has been much lower levels of consumer spending. Businesses that had catered to, and profited from, the record high spending of the recent past now face a difficult period of restructuring from ultra-free spending to a more frugal consumer.

Consumption, which accounted for about 64.3 percent of economic activity in the U.S. during the 80s, reached a summit of 70.5 percent in 2008. The personal savings rate (total savings in the U.S. as a percent of total disposable

personal income), which averaged about 9.8 percent from 1970 to 1985, dropped from about 7.7 percent in 1992 to zero, going negative briefly, as U.S. households spent more than they earned at the peak of the housing bubble in 2005 and 2006. During this period, households made home equity withdrawals totaling almost a trillion dollars from what was, in most cases, wildly inflated home prices.

The easy credit and skyrocketing asset values that characterized the housing and stock market bubbles created large paper gains and the presumption that

their perceived wealth would only grow in the future. This gave households the confidence to spend freely, often using debt that seemed reasonable at the time to finance their expenditures. The flip side was that many financial institutions, under relaxed or non-existent regulations, were eagerly promoting and providing the credit.

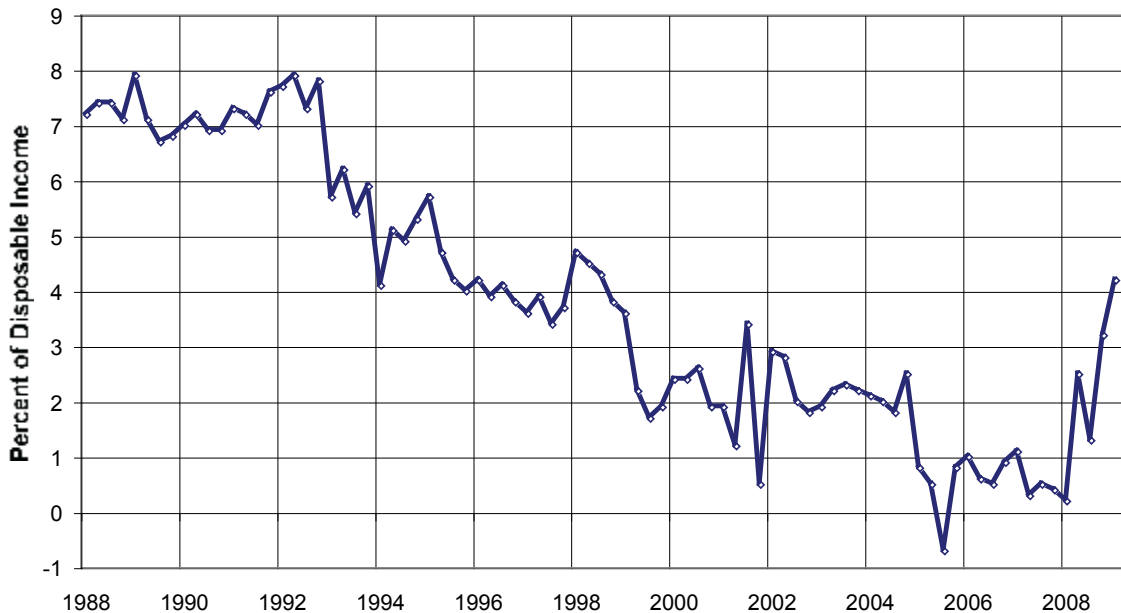
Businesses became dependent on the very high levels of consumer spending. The severe recession—with high unemployment, reduced earnings, and lower household equity wealth—is forcing consumers to abandon their free-spending ways. Businesses, as they plan for the future, must try to adjust to the long-term impacts of the current recession and the on-going structural changes to the economy.

Recent polls of U.S. households have tried to gauge whether the recently reduced levels of consumer spending and higher levels of household savings are just the results of the current higher rates of unemployment, the fear of job loss, and housing difficulties, or whether a new attitude of increased frugality and more saving will persist after the economy recovers. A Pew Research Center survey found that quite a number of Americans now believe some products previously viewed as a necessity, like a microwave, are now viewed to be more of a luxury. A Gallop poll from last April indicated that many American households believe that the adjustments they have made to increase savings are a “new, normal pattern for years ahead.”

What people say they will do is one thing, their actual future behavior is what counts. There are a number of reasons why this higher savings rate may last beyond the current recession. The high asset values of the housing boom will not return, some credit tightening is permanent, and new regulation will be put into place to prevent some of



## U.S. *Personal Savings* Rate by Quarter: 1st Quarter 1988 to 1st Quarter 2009



Source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis

## ...to Prudent Savers?

the freewheeling financial excesses that developed during the boom. It is also expected that baby boomers are feeling the need to save more for retirement and to help fund the expensive cost of their children's college educations.

As the summer begins, the national economic news is still dominated with reports of job losses, contracting business demand, and lower consumer and business spending. The most positive news is that economic conditions are deteriorating at slower rates and that the bottom of this recession may be in sight. If a new frugal consumer becomes the norm, the increased savings should lead to more investment, greater productivity, and higher living standards in the long run. ●



# Washington County from **Boom** to Bust?

Washington County has generally loved its status as Utah's poster child for growth. Since 1970, Washington County's population has almost doubled every decade as affordable central air-conditioning made the desert more livable. To put this truly remarkable growth in perspective, remember that the U.S. population grew between 10 and 14 percent during the same decades the St. George area was experiencing 90-percent growth.

## Astounding Growth

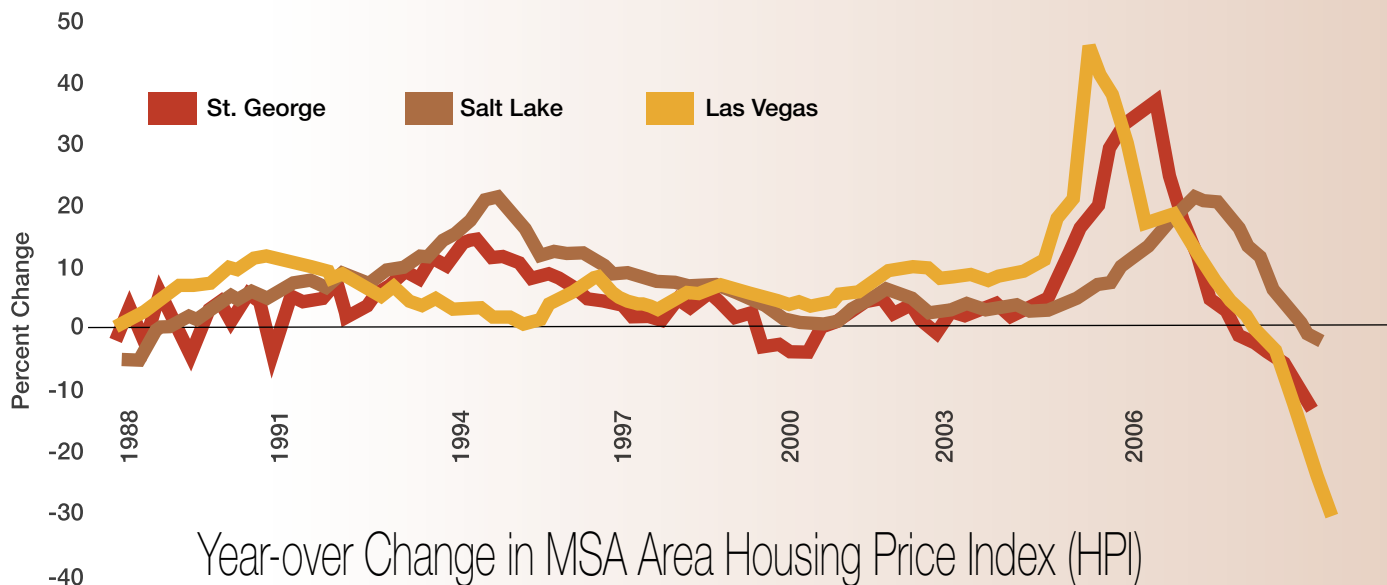
Population growth fueled economic growth. In the two decades prior to 2007, Washington County's annual nonfarm job growth never slipped below 3.4 percent. Even more remarkably, annual employment expansion averaged a whopping 8 percent between 1987 and 2007. Again some perspective—nationally over the same time period, annual job growth measured only 1.5 percent and never got above 3.2 percent.

As Washington County's mushrooming population qualified it as a Metropolitan Statistical Area, it flew to the top of many national rankings of economic prosperity and growth. The St. George area seemed the economic wunderkind of Utah—the recipient of perpetual economic favor. But trouble was brewing.

Warren Buffet: "When the masses get greedy, I get scared."

Construction and economic growth based on population expansion had kept the county on a firm footing for many years. However, the speculative





building frenzy that ensued in mid-decade sewed the seeds of short-term economic demise—in Washington County and across the nation.

In the past, true demand for homes as residences drove residential construction gains. But during the recent boom, speculative demand took control as investors of every ilk bought and built with the notion of “flipping” homes and properties to make a huge short-term profit. Developers, large investors, and individual home buyers (aided by short-sighted lenders) participated in bidding up real estate prices. Home and lot prices skyrocketed, wages did not.

That created a bubble, and at the peak of the bubble, the Office of Federal Housing Enterprise Oversight’s housing price index for the St. George MSA showed an annual increase of almost 40 percent (the Salt Lake index peaked at only 20 percent). Investors and lenders appeared to believe price increases would continue ad infinitum. They ignored the reality that the possibility of great profit is inexorably linked to the probability of great loss. The economy became unbalanced, as most working people could not truly afford homes.

## Bubbles Eventually Pop

But, market forces cannot be thwarted forever. Bubble markets in crude oil, dot-com stocks and housing will eventually collapse to prices based on true demand. Washington County’s current market adjustment is not a pleasant one. Last year, Washington County lost jobs for the first time since 1974. In December 2008, employment was down 8 percent on a year-over basis (almost three-fourths of lost jobs were in construction).

Unemployment has reached levels not seen since the 1980s. Foreclosure rates are high, lots sit vacant, and in-migrants are scarce. And, before residential building can return with any force, lots and home inventories must be absorbed.

## Any Good News?

Is there any good news for Washington County? Yes. Job surveys seem to indicate that employment losses bottomed out in the first quarter of 2009. Washington County typically

enters periods of economic slowdown earlier than the state and nation—but generally recovers sooner also. The housing market appears to be stabilizing. And finally, Washington County hasn’t lost the qualities that have made it attractive to in-migrants for 30 years. Once the market adjusts, the county’s economic growth should continue with some hard lessons learned. ❶

For more information: <http://jobs.utah.gov/jsp/wi/utalmis/gotoCounties.do>

Washington County hasn't lost the qualities that made it attractive for 30 years.

*Strong math and computer skills will assist those seeking this occupation.*

# Economist

Ask an economist...How many times have we heard that refrain over the past months? What has happened to our economy has confounded many of us; there are no CliffsNotes® for this complex situation, and to understand it we have turned to the experts: economists.

What exactly is an economist? The Department of Labor defines economists as those who “conduct research, prepare reports, or formulate plans to aid in solution of economic problems arising from production and distribution of goods and services. They may collect and process economic and statistical data using econometric and sampling techniques.”

Economists are interpreters—prognosticators, if you will—the layperson’s medium into the world of production, distribution, and consumption, or what is collectively known as the economy. How else are we to understand derivatives, diseconomy of scale, inflation, deflation or stagflation without a lot of help? In addition to explaining economic phenomena, economists analyze data that helps forecast trends, interpret markets and formulate economic policy. Economists also influence public policy and affect legislation. Since over 50 percent of economists are employed by government entities, they can wield a lot of power. Think Timothy Geithner or Ben Bernanke.

A bachelor’s degree in economics results in an entry-level position, usually consisting of the boiler-plate collection and preparation of data. A master’s degree or Ph.D. provides more responsibility and can lead to teaching or higher-level government work. Most economists are employed by universities, research groups, and government entities, although the number of private enterprises employing economists has greatly increased in recent years. It is common for an economist to specialize in a field such as labor, agriculture, or public finance.

In Utah, economist is designated a two-star job, meaning that the occupation will experience slower-than-average employment growth with a low volume of job openings. The need for replacements, rather than demand from business expansion, is projected to make up the majority of job openings in the coming decade.

If you have strong math and computer skills and are imaginative enough to bridge the gap between theory and reality, you may be a candidate for this occupation. ⓘ

## Employment Projections 2006—2016 for Economists

| Area Name      | Current Employment | Projected Employment | Annual %Change | Total Annual Openings |
|----------------|--------------------|----------------------|----------------|-----------------------|
| Utah—Statewide | 97                 | 115                  | 1.9            | 10                    |
| United States  | 12,724             | 13,442               | 0.6            | 0                     |

Source: Department of Workforce Services

## Occupational Wages—Published May 2008 (data from May 2007) for Economists

| Area Name          | Hourly Inexperienced | Hourly Median | Annual Inexperienced | Annual Median | Training          |
|--------------------|----------------------|---------------|----------------------|---------------|-------------------|
| Salt Lake City MSA | \$25.17              | \$31.04       | \$52,350             | \$64,560      | Bachelor's Degree |
| United States      | —                    | \$38.57       | —                    | \$80,220      |                   |
| Utah               | \$24.92              | \$30.86       | \$51,840             | \$64,200      |                   |

Source: Department of Workforce Services





To understand this  
complex economy,  
we turned to the  
experts—economists!

# Elevate your Vacation Value with a Staycation this Summer

The weather is warming, and that means many around the state have begun to make their vacation plans. However, with economic conditions as they are, experts are predicting that travelers will be considering a visit to locations closer to home.

Luckily, if you live in or near Utah you have an unmatched variety of enjoyable travel experiences close at hand. Whether it is enjoying “Broadway in the Desert” at Tuacahn after hiking Zion National Park, or shopping on Park City’s Main Street after pedaling the Wasatch Crest Trail, the Utah experience is just down the street or over the next hill.

Southern Utah is a land of unsurpassed, unique beauty. Bikers negotiate rolling hummocks of slickrock. Hikers explore towering fins of sandstone. River runners test the powerful waterways of the Desert Southwest.

Southern Utah became famous for the red rock country; but the culture and events of the area have been pleasing visitors who come looking to create lasting memories. The Tony Award-winning® Utah Shakespearean Festival is held during the summer and fall in Cedar City, and is also within a day’s drive of Utah’s five national parks and other attractions.

In northern Utah, Wasatch Front residents find fun right at their doorsteps. From the gorgeous blue water of Bear Lake to the Wasatch and Uinta mountain ranges, a full-fledged vacation is available less than an hour’s drive in any direction. Park City hosts events all summer long including jazz, food, and art festivals, as well as other special events. Many of the area ski resorts run their lifts for mountain bikers who want to ride from the top down.

Antelope Island State Park, the largest island on the Great Salt Lake, offers outdoor recreation in quiet solitude only seven miles across a causeway just






For more information on traveling in Utah  
contact the Utah Office of Tourism at  
800-200-1160 or visit [www.utah.travel](http://www.utah.travel).

north of Utah's capital city. Opportunities to view wildlife (from bison to birds) are available on backcountry trails, which are open to horseback riding, mountain biking, hiking and even cross-country skiing in the winter. The Antelope Island Balloon Stampede draws a diverse crowd to the island every September.

Utah's capital city is not only an international gateway to some of the country's most exciting outdoor recreation; it is also a destination for local travelers. Salt Lake City's Utah Arts Festival has become one of the

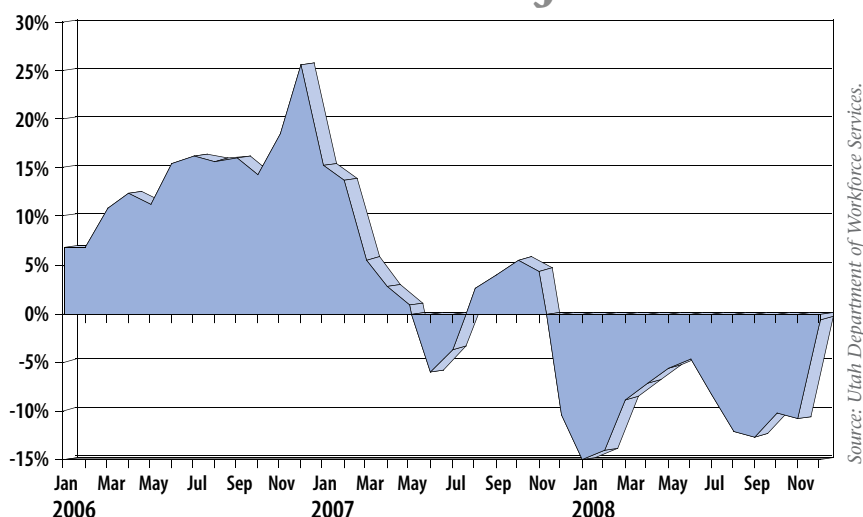
largest festivals in the state. Temple Square is the state's most popular attraction—featuring peaceful beauty, elegant grounds, and the sounds of the Mormon Tabernacle Choir. Hogle Zoo, This is the Place State Park, and the Utah Natural History Museum are all ideal staycation spots, complementing any visit to Salt Lake City.

This is merely a glimpse into the staycation possibilities waiting for you right here in Utah. To find out more about events happening in Utah this summer visit: [www.nowplayingutah.com](http://www.nowplayingutah.com). 



# Juab County

## Juab County Year-Over Change in Nonfarm Jobs



When the decennial census was taken in 1900, Juab County's population measured just over 10,000 individuals. In 2008, Juab County's population was estimated at (drum roll, please)—just over 10,000 individuals. Of course, a lot of coming and going occurred in those 108 years. Juab County lost population as economic activity shifted to urban areas. The population low point was in 1970 (at about 4,600) and then slowly rebounded. The pace of growth has picked up in recent years as population spilled outside the Wasatch Front.

Recent Juab County economic activity has been overshadowed by the construction/completion of the Currant Creek power plant. Despite the employment ups and downs associated with this major project (notice the chart's 25-percent gain and 15-percent loss within just 12 months), Juab County ended the recessionary year of 2008 with only a 0.5-percent year-over employment loss. Plus, the county actually showed construction and manufacturing industry employment gains. ①

For more information about Juab County, see <http://jobs.utah.gov/jsp/wi/utalmis/gotoCounties.do>



## The Summer Stimulus Internship Program

### Employers:

Get extra help this summer at NO cost!

### Young Adults:

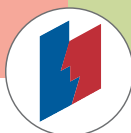
Ages 18 to 24—Get a job this summer!



- *Get those “back burner” projects done*
- *Give staff the opportunity to get supervisory experience*
- *Provide local youth an opportunity to learn about your company—you may even find a permanent employee*

- *Work 32-40 hours a week*
- *Various worksites throughout Utah highlighting medical/health and green (environmental sensitive) job occupations*
- *Must meet income guidelines and other eligibility criteria*

For more information visit  
<http://jobs.utah.gov/services/stimulus.asp>





The Utah Work/Life Awards recognize and honor companies that are creating exceptional workplaces and businesses by effectively addressing employee work/life needs and striving to create and maintain a culture of equity and opportunity.

## Utah Work/Life Awards

### *Congratulations*

to the Winners and Finalists of the 2009 Awards!

2009 Winners:

### Micro (less than 50 employees)

Brown and Caldwell  
Cirque Corporation  
Powerquip Corp.  
Q90 Corporation  
Statera

The Employers Council  
Utah Foster Care Foundation

### Medium (50 – 500 employees)

Access Development  
Cirris Systems Corporation  
Equitable Life & Casualty Insurance Company  
Futura Industries  
Goldenwest Credit Union  
Marriott Vacation Club International Owner Services  
Software Technology Group  
Spillman Technologies  
The Leavitt Group  
The MGIS Companies, Inc.  
The Pepsi Bottling Group  
ThomasArts

### Large (more than 500 employees)

1-800 CONTACTS  
ARUP Laboratories  
CHG Healthcare Services, Inc.  
InterContinental Hotels Group  
Nicholas & Co., Inc.  
TURN Community Services

### 2009 Finalists:

Ace Disposal  
Ascent Construction, Inc.  
Barnes Aerospace  
Best Vinyl  
Bob Barker Company, Inc.  
Clearlink  
Comcast  
DoxTek, Inc.  
Employer Solutions Group  
Kids on the Move  
LaneLinks, Inc.  
MonaVie  
Mountain America Credit Union  
Namifiers, LLC  
Ralph L. Wadsworth Construction Company  
Snapp Conner PR  
WesTech Engineering Inc.  
Westminster College

just  
the  
facts...

#### April 2009 Unemployment Rates

|                          |           |
|--------------------------|-----------|
| Utah Unemployment Rate   | 5.2       |
| U.S. Unemployment Rate   | 8.9 %     |
| Utah Nonfarm Jobs (000s) | 1,219.1   |
| U.S. Nonfarm Jobs (000s) | 132,348.0 |

#### Changes From Last Year

|      |            |
|------|------------|
| Up   | 1.9 points |
| Up   | 3.9 points |
| Down | 3.2 %      |
| Down | 3.8 %      |

#### April 2009 Consumer Price Index Rates

|                           |       |      |      |
|---------------------------|-------|------|------|
| U.S. Consumer Price Index | 213.2 | Down | 0.7% |
| U.S. Producer Price Index | 169.9 | Down | 3.7% |

Source: Utah Department of Workforce Services

#### April 2009 Seasonally Adjusted Unemployment Rates

|            |       |
|------------|-------|
| Beaver     | 5.0 % |
| Box Elder  | 5.8 % |
| Cache      | 4.0 % |
| Carbon     | 6.1 % |
| Daggett    | 4.3 % |
| Davis      | 4.5 % |
| Duchesne   | 6.3 % |
| Emery      | 4.8%  |
| Garfield   | 8.3 % |
| Grand      | 7.3 % |
| Iron       | 6.3 % |
| Juab       | 6.9 % |
| Kane       | 5.4 % |
| Millard    | 4.2 % |
| Morgan     | 4.7 % |
| Piute      | 4.5 % |
| Rich       | 4.3 % |
| Salt Lake  | 5.1 % |
| San Juan   | 8.0 % |
| Sanpete    | 6.1 % |
| Sevier     | 5.7 % |
| Summit     | 5.4 % |
| Tooele     | 6.0 % |
| Uintah     | 6.0 % |
| Utah       | 4.8 % |
| Wasatch    | 5.9 % |
| Washington | 6.9 % |
| Wayne      | 5.5 % |
| Weber      | 6.1%  |

Watch for these features in our  
**Next Issue:**

**Theme:**  
Tourism, Hospitality &  
Recreation

**County Highlight:**  
Iron

**Occupation:**  
Police Officer

Utah Department of Workforce Services  
Workforce Development and Information Division  
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Salt Lake City, UT 84111

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Find it at  
**jobs.utah.gov**  
click on Workforce Information

